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Dear Mr. Dougherty -

It appears that it will be much easier to limit the northern boundary of the proposed ban on firearms to the Bolinas - Fairfax Road on the north - from the ocean to the top of the ridge. Also, this organization, not Marin Audubon, will make the proposal. Any expressions of concurrence with the former proposal would, of course, apply to this more limited version.

Yours sincerely,
William S. Picher

3/29/63

POST OFFICE BOX 441, TIBURON, CALIFORNIA

Marin Audubon Society

A Branch of National Audubon Society

P.O. Box 441 Tiburon, California

Mr. Hugh Dougherty, President,
Stinson Beach Progressive Club,
P. O. Box 134,
Stinson Beach, California.

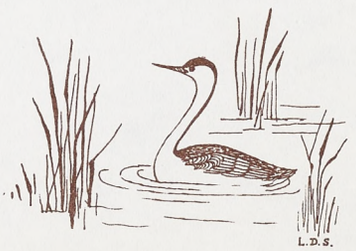
March 19, 1963

Dear Mr. Dougherty:

This society is in the process of preparing a proposal for the consideration of the Board of Supervisors for which we would very much like to have the support of your organization. We are proposing that the discharge of firearms be prohibited in the area bounded by the southern edge of the Point Reyes Seashore on the north, the Panoramix Highway on the south, the edge of the Water District lands along the top of Bolinas Ridge on the east, and the ocean on the west.

Our reasons for this are two. In the first place we feel that the use of firearms, especially on and around the lagoon, constitutes an ever increasing danger. The people who shoot on the lagoon do not restrict themselves to shotguns. As more families with children move to the sandspit, as the Shoreline Highway becomes more crowded, and as the lagoon itself becomes more and more crowded with boaters, clammers and fishermen, the daner of some one's being accidentally shot increases. The situation will become even more alarming, we feel, when the proposed marina is put in; and we ourselves are particularly concerned for the safety of the children that will be using the ranch and comeing to the shore of the lagoon in great numbers after we have developed the nature-education center at Canyon Ranch.

The second reason concerns us directly both as a matter of polif7 and of particular application. Audubon has never opposed hunting by sportsmen who obey the rules and stay within bag limits. We know that it is the money from sportsmen that has made possible the private and governmental measures to which our ducks and geese owe their existence. But we are strongly opposed, as I am sure all citizens are, to the shooting in defiance of state and federal law of birds on the protected list, of game birds on the water, with rifles, from cars, without regard to the number taken. According to Al Giddings, the local Fish and Game warden, the birds on the lagoon are inedible after they have been there a day or two; and because



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of the shallowness of the water, it is not possible to retrieve dead and wounded birds which are left floating or kicking on the water. It is this unsportsmanlike hunting and the killing of herons, egrets, shore birds and anything else that moves on the lagoon that we are trying to end, particularly since a great deal of it goes on in the area we have under lease from the Bolinas Harbor District for the development of a wildlife sanctuary.

If this proposal meets with the approval of your directors and the membership of your organization, I would very much appreciate your sending me two copies of a letter addressed to the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors indicating your approval of this society's proposal to prohibit the discharge of firearms within the indicated limits. I hope that there will be a hearing before the supervisors in April at which time I would present your letter along with our proposal.

Yours cordially,

Stan Picher

William S. Picher,
President.